



EPA Brownfields Assessment Demonstration Pilot

Clarksburg, WV

Outreach and Special Projects Staff (5105)

Quick Reference Fact Sheet

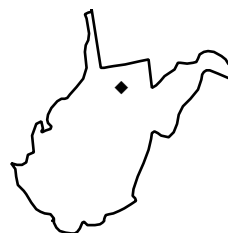
EPA's Brownfields Economic Redevelopment Initiative is designed to empower states, communities, and other stakeholders in economic redevelopment to work together in a timely manner to prevent, assess, and safely clean up brownfields to promote their sustainable reuse. Brownfields are abandoned, idled, or under-used industrial and commercial facilities where expansion or redevelopment is complicated by real or perceived environmental contamination. EPA is funding: assessment demonstration pilot programs (each funded up to \$200,000 over two years, with additional funding provided for greenspace) to test assessment models and facilitate coordinated assessment and cleanup efforts at the federal, state, tribal, and local levels; and job training pilot programs (each funded up to \$200,000 over two years) to provide training for residents of communities affected by brownfields to facilitate cleanup of brownfields sites and prepare trainees for future employment in the environmental field; and, cleanup revolving loan fund program (each funded up to \$1,000,000 over five years) to provide financial assistance for the environmental cleanup of brownfields. These pilot programs are intended to provide EPA, states, tribes, municipalities, and communities with useful information and strategies as they continue to seek new methods to promote a unified approach to site assessment, environmental cleanup, and redevelopment.

BACKGROUND

EPA has selected the City of Clarksburg for a Brownfields Assessment Pilot. Clarksburg (population 18,059) is in north central West Virginia less than 100 miles south of Pittsburgh. The city has identified four manufacturing areas surrounded by residential communities as target areas. Dilapidated structures with the potential to release heavy metals and asbestos into the environment characterize the four areas, which have been subject to declining property values. Seventeen percent of city residents live below the poverty level, 11 percent are unemployed, and the median household income is nearly \$2,500 less than that of the surrounding county.

Clarksburg, which once thrived on industries such as glass manufacturing, foundries, and coal mining, is suffering economically and socially from the loss of 4,000 manufacturing and 2,000 coal mining related jobs. Idle manufacturing sites inhibit the city's revitalization programs. The city has performed preliminary environmental site assessments on several industrial and manufacturing properties through agreements with the owners. The Pilot will provide

PILOT SNAPSHOT



Clarksburg, West Virginia

Date of Announcement:
April 2001

Amount: \$200,000

Profile: The Pilot targets sites in four industrial areas of the city that are surrounded by residential communities.

Contacts:

City of Clarksburg
(304) 624-1677

Regional Brownfields Team
U.S. EPA - Region 3
(215) 814-3129

Visit the EPA Region 3 Brownfields web site at:
<http://www.epa.gov/reg3hwmd/brownfld/hmpage1.htm>

For further information, including specific Pilot contacts, additional Pilot information, brownfields news and events, and publications and links, visit the EPA Brownfields web site at:

<http://www.epa.gov/brownfields/>

needed funds to expand on these initial efforts to revitalize an economically depressed community.

OBJECTIVES

The city's long-term objective is to encourage the redevelopment of existing brownfields to create jobs and improve public health, property values, and quality of life. To further this objective, the Pilot will inventory and assess brownfields to set the stage for the cleanup of vital manufacturing areas, and encourage citizens to take an active role in improving their neighborhoods.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND ACTIVITIES

Activities planned as part of this Pilot include:

- Inventorying brownfields sites in four manufacturing areas of the city;
- Instituting a community involvement process to ensure residents, businesses, and other interested parties participate in reuse decision making;
- Conducting Phase I and Phase II environmental site assessments at priority properties; and
- Designing cleanup plans.

The cooperative agreement for this Pilot has not yet been negotiated; therefore, activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.